

BLOOMFIELD TOWN COUNCIL
PUBLIC SAFETY SUBCOMMITTEE

There was a regular meeting for the above-reference subcommittee held at **6:30 p.m. on Monday, June 10, 2013** in Conference Room #5, Bloomfield Town Hall, 800 Bloomfield Avenue, Bloomfield, CT.

Committee members present were: Councilors Washington and Banks. Also present were: Councilor Rivers, Chief Paul Hammick – Bloomfield Police Department, Chief Robert Farmer, Blue Hills Fire Department, Chief William Riley – Center Fire District and Philip Schenck, Jr., Interim Town Manager and India Rodgers, Clerk of Council

Absent was: Pat Braun – EMS

The meeting was called to order at 6:35 p.m.

POLICE

Chief Hammick stated that the department remains on budget, closing last non-personal purchases by June 14, 2013. The overtime budget also remains aligned with projections. There has been a little change in the Professional Standards Division due to training of dispatchers. Overall, the department is expected to make budget by the end of the fiscal year.

Crime Report

Crime is down 12% and 3% year-to-date by stabilizing burglaries and larcencies. Officer initiated activity continues to be a positive attribute of the department. There have been approximately 1,076 calls for service year-to-date and 1,973 calls as of May 2013.

There is an ongoing criminal investigation of a recent robbery at Capitol Region Federal Credit Union. There was great evidence collection resulting in a suspect sketch, which has been distributed regionally.

Chief Hammick updated the committee on recent events and actions, in regards to the bomb scare at the Metropolitan Learning Center (MLC). MLC school administration expressed gratitude with the Bloomfield Police Department and was delighted with the service received. The threat continues to be investigated with the Town of East Windsor. The department called in the Hartford Bomb Squad to investigate for any explosive devices.. The Police Department also supplemented with one officer, staff and K-9 unit.

Personnel Updates

Chief Hammick reported that 4 officers will enter the Police Academy. Mr. David Bartley and Jason Piccirillo will enter the New Britain Police Department satellite academy on June 14, 2013. Mr. Keehan Vugdalic and James Thurston will enter Post Academy in Meriden, CT on July 5, 2013. There are currently 7 officers in training.

There is still 1 vacant position for an officer available. Two certified officers' candidates will be interviewed on July 13, 2013.

Dispatcher Chrystal Gibbs will complete training by June 14, 2013. The other dispatchers recently hired will complete their training shortly thereafter.

Community Services

On May 5, 2013, Chief Hammick was the honorary chair at the Celebrity Chef Event.

During the month of May, the department conducted a "Click It or Ticket It" detail from May 20 – June 2, 2013. Overall, there were 253 motor vehicle stops resulting in 46 infractions and 3 child restraint violations.

A car seat clinic was held at Home Depot, in which 27 car seats were properly installed. This event was very receptive amongst those in the community.

A K-9 demonstration was conducted at Fidelco Open House and with a 4th grade class at Metacomet Elementary School. In addition, Officer Grant seized narcotics, totally 4 ½ grams during a motor vehicle intervention.

On May 27, 2013, the department participated and supported the Memorial Day Parade and Road Race.

The Citizens Police Academy completed weeks 8-11 in May. The department graduated 16 participants on Thursday, June 6, 2013. This academy was very well received by the participants with topics covered such as: use of stun gun, tasers, handcuffs, tour of evidence room, online predator and child enticement cases, accident reconstruction scene.

FIRE

Center Fire District

Chief Riley reported both departments participated in an auto accident reconstruction at the Drill Tower. This reconstruction was conducted with an extrication, extinguishment and BVA stimulation to assist victims of an accident.

Chief Riley stated that it seemed as if the Memorial Day Parade had more spectators this year than in past years. The access to the parade was also more accessible this year.

Blue Hills District

Chief Farmer reported that the past few months have been fairly busy. There were two large fires at Barry Circle and Dorothy Drive. The auto mutual aid agreement with the Center Fire District helped to minimize these fires.

Several firefighters have completed their Basic Firefighter I training. Three firefighters were certified and five completed training this year. A total of 87% volunteer and career firefighter have completed Basic Firefighter I or above certifications. A total of 80% have certification in Hazardous Materials Operations level.

Chief Farmer attended the International Hazardous Materials Conference in Baltimore, MD from June 6 – June 9, 2013.

It was also noted that docking stations have been installed on fire apparatus. The district also purchased laptop computers with mobile data terminals that are aligned with the dispatch center.

Several firefighters will attend trainings related to Homeland Security in New Mexico for bomb techniques and chemical/biological training in Anniston, Alabama. These trainings are free from the Office of Domestic Preparedness.

Chief Farmer secured a \$22,000 grant for an accountability board for the Regional Taskforce in the region.

Career firefighters will gather information on commercial and industrial vacant buildings in the district. This information will be inputted into laptops and dispatch communications.

The Blue Hills Fire District participated in various community activities during the month of May 2013:

The Senior Center Expo held at the Senior Center, 330 Park Avenue.

The Girl and Boy scouts received tours of the firehouse and equipment.

It was noted that MDC is required to paint and flush fire hydrants every year.

Councilor Rivers thanked both Chiefs and districts for their support in volunteer participation and other trainings of interest.

ADJOURNMENT

It was moved by Councilor Banks, seconded by Councilor Washington and voted unanimously to adjourn the meeting at 7:20 p.m.